

school year. Additionally, when the school became aware of a few families who experienced the loss of loved ones or employment loss due to the pandemic, they contacted Lori, who swiftly responded, gathering financial donations from neighbors in the community for those families, enabling neighbors to become directly involved in helping their neighbors.

Lori is married to her college sweetheart from Colorado, Craig Rosales, and they have three children: Estes, Tyson, and Vinny.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Lori Rosales.

IN RECOGNITION OF MIGUEL
CONCHAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and achievements of Miguel A. Conchas, one of Laredo's pre-eminent business leaders and a distinguished member of our community. Miguel has served for 29 years as President of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce, nourishing and advancing the quality of business, economic vitality, and community standards. Our city has undoubtedly flourished because of his outstanding enthusiasm and commitment to his work.

Mr. Conchas began his career as an Elementary school teacher and served as an Administrator for the College of Education at Laredo State University. His fondness for teaching unquestionably influenced his success in training and cultivating local business development. After his career in education Miguel served as the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau Director, targeting promotional programs to improve Laredo tourism.

Appropriately, his impressive career as President of the Chamber includes a long list of awards, often recognizing his success and diligence in trade and business expansion in Laredo. He received monumental recognition from state and federal leaders for his activism for NAFTA, which was instrumental in the legislation becoming law.

Throughout his long career, Mr. Conchas has sought to better his city through education, activism, and professional development. He and I have worked closely over the years on trade projects, and I consider him a close friend. Miguel is the embodiment of hard work and optimism, and I wish him a long and very happy retirement with his wife, Cynthia. May this ending bring many new beginnings for him and his family.

IN HONOR OF VIVIAN CREIGHTON
BISHOP

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I rise today to honor and commend an extraordinary public servant, wife, mother, political operative

and friend to many, The Honorable Vivian Creighton Bishop, upon her retirement as the elected Clerk of The Municipal Court of Columbus, Georgia. Ms. Bishop retired on December 31, 2020 after 28 years of distinguished service. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a retirement celebration was delayed and combined with a belated birthday party that was held at 6:30 pm on July 23, 2021 at Warehouse Nine, 920 9th Street, Columbus, Georgia.

Vivian Francine Creighton was born July 9, 1951 to the late Frank Richard Creighton and Evelyn Rushin Creighton at Martin Army Hospital, Fort Benning, Georgia. Because her father was a career noncommissioned officer in the United States Army, she and her older sister, Jacqueline and her younger brother Frank, Jr. as military dependents lived and traveled in multiple places across the United States and abroad. Vivian graduated high school in Wurzburg, Germany, but frequently during her childhood and adolescence, the family lived in Columbus, Georgia where she and her siblings would attend school. Following graduation in 1969, she was accepted to the University of Maryland Campus in Wurzburg but had to withdraw when her father received orders for Viet Nam. She attended Columbus Technical College, Atlanta Junior College and Georgia State University. After perfect scores on the Georgia State Merit Exams she secured employment in Atlanta with the Department of Family and Childrens' Services and later with the Georgia State Department of Education where she managed Human Resources for Georgia Public Television.

In 1999 she married Meldon Owens and they produced a daughter, Aayesha. They moved to Columbus where she was hired as an Accounting Clerk in Operations and Purchasing at Jack T. Rutledge State Prison where she rose through the ranks to become comptroller at the Prison, being among the first African Americans and females to do so at the Georgia Department of Corrections. Although her marriage ended in divorce, she worked hard in her career and was named Georgia Department of Corrections "Employee of the Year for Administrative Support" after she developed an innovative program for managing inmate accounts that was utilized system wide. After 16 years, Vivian left State government to become an entrepreneur, opening a gift and flower shop, "Baskets of Delight."

In 1992, Vivian was asked by a friend who was a victim of domestic violence to go with her to get a warrant from the Municipal Court of Columbus, Georgia. Witnessing the rude treatment she was receiving from Court employees, Vivian questioned their conduct and was told that if she did not like the way the office was being run she should run for it herself. And run she did. Vivian Creighton was elected countywide and became the first African American female to win countywide office in Muscogee County, Georgia—a position she held for 28 years. As Clerk she reorganized the office to maximize customer service, promote efficiency and achieved flawless audits with special recognition noted to City Council regarding her exit audit. During her years as Clerk she was loved and respected by all who used the court as being competent, kind, compassionate and helpful.

In 2001, Vivian Creighton married yours truly, Congressman SANFORD BISHOP, after a long courtship. We recently celebrated our

20th wedding anniversary, having survived as a political couple in spite of conflicting views. She was Co-Chair of the Georgia Hillary Clinton Presidential Campaign and I was Co-Chair of the Georgia Barack Obama Presidential Campaign. In her own right she helped elect countless state and local officials including me, mentored others and is constantly sought out for political advice and counsel.

Vivian was elected President of the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses. She was the first Georgian and the only African American elected President of the prestigious Congressional Club, the Congressionally Chartered bi-partisan organization of the spouses of members of Congress, ambassadors, Supreme Court Justices, and Cabinet secretaries. She chaired the annual "First Lady's Luncheon" with First Lady Michelle Obama. Moreover, she raised over \$1 million for the National March of Dimes Gala and won top awards as a celebrity chef.

On the local level Vivian has been active in numerous groups, including NAACP, Rotary Club, Girls Inc., The Links, Inc., American Cancer Society, Muscogee Democratic Party and more. She is a longtime member of M.L. Harris United Methodist Church although she regularly attends Mount Zion Baptist Church of Albany, Georgia wherein I am a Deacon.

Vivian has accomplished much in her life but it would not have been possible without the continuous love and support of her family—daughter, Aayesha; granddaughter, Londyn; sister, Jacqueline, nieces, nephews, cousins and legions of friends, all of whom love her dearly. And beyond the shadow of a doubt, she is the love of my life.

It has been said that "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." Vivian Creighton Bishop has paid her rent and paid it well. She has done so much for so many for so long.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues of the House of Representatives join me, along with the more 730,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District in honoring and commending The Honorable Vivian Creighton Bishop for her outstanding career of public service and her many contributions to her community, her State and this nation. Best wishes to her as she enters this new chapter of her life.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF
COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the heart of Colorado's Fifth Congressional District, Colorado Springs, Colorado. This July 31st, we celebrate 150 years since General William Jackson Palmer, a Civil War hero and railroad magnate, founded Colorado Springs in 1871.

The region's first inhabitants were Native Americans, such as the Ute, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and many others. They gathered at the base of Pikes Peak, known today as America's Mountain, near its abundant springs in what is now called Garden of the Gods Park. As they followed vast herds of bison, the Ute

would camp in nearby red rock canyon and visit the bubbling mineral water springs we still enjoy today.

The region lies along the extreme southwestern edge of the Louisiana Territory, which President Thomas Jefferson purchased in 1803. Following the Louisiana Purchase, explorers and settlers began to venture west.

In November 1806, American explorer Zebulon Pike traveled through the area and was credited for “discovering” Pikes Peak. He and his group attempted to reach the summit, but they were neither dressed nor equipped to climb the mountain that ultimately came to bear his name.

General William Jackson Palmer ushered in a new era of Colorado Springs history in 1869. During his first visit to the area, he fell in love with its “most enticing scenery.” In 1870, Palmer wrote to his wife: “Could one live in constant view of these grand mountains without being elevated by them into a lofty plane of thought and purpose?”

In the 1890s, one of the richest gold strikes in American history was discovered on the western slope of Pikes Peak. Almost overnight, the Cripple Creek Mining District grew from an isolated cattle pasture to the home of more than 50,000 people. As a result, by the turn of the 19th century, Colorado Springs was called “the city of millionaires.”

One of these millionaires was Spencer Penrose, who made his first fortune in Cripple Creek. He used his vast resources to build the Pikes Peak and Cheyenne Mountain Highways and to establish the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Will Rogers Shrine, and The Broadmoor Hotel. In addition, he and his wife, Julie, created the El Pomar Foundation, which still generously supports many worthy causes in the Pikes Peak region and across Colorado.

At the turn of the century, inspired by a trip to the summit of Pikes Peak, Katharine Lee Bates penned what has become our country's most famous poem and song, “America the Beautiful.”

In the 1940s, the U.S. Army opened Camp Carson, marking the beginning of a strong and vital military presence in the Pikes Peak region. In 1954, the Air Force broke ground for the United States Air Force Academy to continue this military tradition. Today, Colorado Springs is home to major military installations, including Fort Carson, Peterson Air Force Base, the U.S. Space Command, NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command), Schriever Air Force Base, and the United States Air Force Academy.

In 1978, Colorado Springs became home to the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee Headquarters. In addition, over 20 National Olympic governing bodies, more than 50 national sport organizations, the Colorado Springs Olympic and Paralympic Training Center, and the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum reside in the Pikes Peak region.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in celebrating this great city's legacy and rich history. Out of humble beginnings and culture-rich traditions, Colorado Springs has grown to be a destination location for world-class athletes, nature lovers, families, and adventure seekers.

Congratulations to Colorado Springs on their 150th anniversary. May God Bless them, and may God Bless America.

EULOGY FOR WALLACE “WALLY” BARNES

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on Monday June 21, 2021, I attended the funeral service for Wallace “Wally” Barnes. I wish to include in the RECORD my eulogy for Wally's wife, former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Barbara Franklin, who served our Nation with distinction. I will always treasure Wally's friendship and am grateful for his leadership in Connecticut and across the Nation.

Barbara, Tom and Melanie, Jarre and Whit, the entire Barnes family—what an honor to be part of this tribute to Wally.

COVID has certainly turned our lives upside down, and while time doesn't ease his passing, it has provided us time to reflect on the man. Even at 94, he was still an immense resource, whose advice was widely sought by business and civic leaders.

In this state—the land of steady habits; a state of sturdy Oaks—he was a Giant Sequoia. I guess when you're a direct descendant of Ebenezer Barnes, the first settler of Bristol, one could argue that Wally was the embodiment of the concept of “Noblesse Oblige.”

And that obligation started with love of family and carried over to his beloved community of Bristol, the State of Connecticut, and our great Nation. Any examination of his life in general—both in and out of public office—quickly demonstrates that public service was not some avocation, or hobby for Wally, it was a way of life.

A value he cherished, practiced, and nurtured in his family, his community, his state, and nation. And was reflected in his business, civic, and charitable endeavors. I was fortunate to first meet Wally when I was in the Connecticut Senate. We shared that common experience of being a part of “The Circle.”

As many know, the State Senate is called the Circle because of its geometric shape, but also because unlike the House of Representatives, we sit in a circle of peers, neither distinguished by rank or political affiliation . . . as equals.

We chuckled over his famous “Nikita Khrushchev moment.” This Republican scion of the Prescott Bush era was hardly a Nikita—but his actions worked. He got the public's and press' attention and made us all remember that it's important not to abuse the rights of the minority.

He first ran for Congress in 1954 against Thomas J. Dodd, and I would like to read a letter to you Barbara from someone familiar with that race:

LETTER FROM SENATOR CHRIS DODD

Dear Barbara, I sincerely regret that I cannot be with you in person today to celebrate Wally's life. He was a good friend.

Wally and I enjoyed a warm relationship spanning many decades. Like so many others, I admired Wally, I appreciated his counsel, advice, and support. I was also thankful for his willingness to clearly share his views—when we agreed and when we disagreed.

Barbara, as you and your family know, our families go back many years. It was 67 years ago in 1954 when Wally and my father competed for the same congressional seat, the very seat that John Larson now holds.

Wally, of course, went on to have a very successful and productive life. The Barnes

Group, as all of us in Connecticut are aware, was extremely successful under Wally's leadership. Further, Wally loved his hometown of Bristol and was a treasured, contributing member of the community and our state for many, many years.

Let me add that Wally Barnes was a great example of what might be called an American original. If I were asked to describe my image of a great American, I could not give a better description than Wally Barnes—patriotic, creative, imaginative, thoughtful, a person who was always willing to help others, with healthy doses of confidence and humility.

And so, Barbara, we were fortunate that Wally was a part of our lives and we thank you for sharing him with us.

Christopher J. Dodd.

Wally and I both served in the Senate for 12 years. He was the Republican Leader and I, as a Democrat—in different times but with a similar result. We were both candidates for Governor for our respective parties—he in 1970, and I in 1994.

In what was a to be a heartbreaking loss for the citizens of the State—he lost to Tom Meskill, and I to Bill Curry. We had both served on various commissions and I can remember a call I received from him after my defeat. But mostly I remember that laugh, when he asked how I felt and I said, “Hey, Peacock one day, feather duster the next.” And he laughed that hearty Barnes laugh of disarming approval. Here this giant of industry, presiding over chambers of commerce, the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, this highly respected Republican, was calling to soften the blow that only people who have been through it can grasp. I can't tell you how important that was and what it meant to me personally.

Wally's sense of humor, his ability to relate to the everyday concerns of ordinary people, was remarkable and endeared him to me and those around him. He was genuine and sincere, believable and had our trust. And his focus was always on getting things done. Quite a contrast to politics today. Barbara I would like to read a letter to you:

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

Dear Madam Secretary, Jill and I send our deepest sympathies on the passing of your beloved husband, Wally. We are thinking of you and praying for your peace.

There are few words that I can share to ease the pain of losing a partner—it leaves a hole in our hearts. Wally dedicated himself to the people of Connecticut and the state he loved. He was a leader, a good man, and a great husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. As you reflect on your time together, may the love that you shared be a shining light in the years to come.

There is an Irish headstone I often quote. It reads, “Death leaves a heartache no one can heal. Love leaves a memory no one can steal.” Though the grieving process never quite ends, I promise you that the day will come when Wally's memory will bring a smile to your lips before it brings a tear to your eye. My prayer for you is that this day comes sooner rather than later.

Sincerely, Joe Biden.

Time does heal as the President has indicated and has brought a few tears but an equal number of smiles for a man who put service above self.

A master pilot, he applied to politics what he applied to aviation. And just like George H.W. Bush, he believed in the pilot's team C.A.V.U., which stands for Ceiling And Visibility Unlimited. He inspired others to believe that you could go as far and as high as their vision, imagination, and courage will take you.

Thank you, Wally Barnes. God bless you, God bless America.